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A

LETTER
FROM THE
OFFICERS
OF THE
ARMY

At the Head-Quarters in the
SOUTH.

To the Lord Generall CROM-
WELL, and the ARMY
in the NORTH.

Vpon their Expedition into
Scotland.

Newcastle, Printed by S. B. 1650.

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LETTER

CL 4794



A Letter from the Officers of the Army, at the Head-Quarters in the South.

May it please your Lordship, and the rest of our Brethren in Christ, and fellow Soldiers.

WE are not insensible of the weighty Affairs lying on you, and how tender we ought to be of mispending your precious time, or adding to your trouble: Neither think we that you need what we can say, or write, to guide, or support you, beleieving that the same wisdom, power, and presence, which you have often experienced, is, and will be to you a sufficient, and never failing supply. Nevertheless, we being Children of the same Father, and Members of the same Body (both spirituall and temporall) and persons engaged in the same cause under Christ the King of Saints. Out of duty to the Lord, and you, and that we may not be wanting to our selves, have presumed to inclose some grounds of our Confidence. That the good hand of the Lord will be with you in your present undertaking. Notwithstanding which, we apprehend you are to conflict with many difficulties: and perhaps, that which is objected by some here, may not be the least to a gracious heart, viz.

Obj. *That many of your Opponents are a Praying People, and truly fearing God.*

Ans. (1.) Though they may be godly, yet herein, they are as the Disciples, who desired fire, but knew not what Spirit they were of.

(2.) Its a refining time, and possibly some of Gods owne may passe through the fire.

(3.) That when the Saints are found in *Babylon*, supporting that interest which God will destroy, and opposing that which he will erect, they may, as to their outward Man, suffer losse, and partake of her Plagues.

(4.) That no mans person is to be dearer to us, then the Interest of Christ, if they stand in the way of it; We are therefore, for Christs sake, to remove them, considering that the Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust to punishment, whose face we are earnestly to seek on their behalfe, because all that feare him, are precious in our sight, and we cannot but love them, though they hate us. And herein we blesse the Lord. That you have (as we heare) sent Letters of love to them; and we earnestly desire, that your Christian Charity be exercised towards them, in all things consistent with the faithfull discharge of your duty.

Brethren, expect difficulties, and greater then yet you have seen, because this is the day of the Lord, and he will make bare his own Arme, & when more, then in our greatest straights: against such a time, see that flesh and blood be not your Councillors, rather runne to Christ by Faith and Prayer; and be assured, That nothing is too great for your God. His Power divides the Sea. His Presence makes the Earth to tremble: therefore feare him alone and let your Soules depend, relye, and rest on him.

Be instant and fervent in Prayer, Reade and consider the Promises, call to mind former experiences consider, that the Lord is a faithfull God, the same yesterday, to day, and for ever.

Watch over your Hearts, and whilst you contend against those

those Enemies that can onely kill the Body, let it be your principall endeavour, that you be not captivated by him, whose worke it is to destroy your soules. Be carefull for nothing; lay both your persons and affaires in the bosome of Christ. Commit your way to the Lord in well doing, knowing that your Master is in the Ship; and if he intend you any further worke for him, you shall not sink. All Power in Heaven and Earth is given to him; the Angels are appointed to Minister unto him; the Devill is his foot-stool; the weapons and strength of wicked Men used against him, are weake as Water; yea, their hearts are in his hand, and if he turne them not, it is, that they may perish to their owne destruction. Remember that Christ and the Saints are one; and so one, that in all their afflictions he is afflicted, and the Angel of his presence saveth them. It well becomes the Saints therefore to be positive and confident, not in their Swords or Bowe, but in the Lord, the Man of warre, who rides on his white horse, to Conquer the Nations, and that by weak, and poore, and altogether inconsiderable Instruments; save that they are called, and chosen, and faithful. And that you may appeare to be such. Let your Conversation be, as becometh your God, and your worke. Now consider the vanity of Honours, great Estates, worldly pleasure, of every thing, but a God in Christ. Wherefore let selfe-love, and carnall desires decrease; take this opportunity to crucifie them; and let pure Love to Christ (for his own sake) and longing after more Communion with him increas.

Lastly, Thinke much of dying, and of the riches of glory that are laid up for you with Christ; Let your Soules long to be with him, that so you may reckon death, gaine; and that life, and all other enjoyments may be onely of value to you, as they are opportunities of service for him; and if Christ will give you but a Call to dye, or part with any thing for him, let it be as much more acceptable to you, to lay down all for him, even as he is greater then all.

Beloved of the Lord, and of the Saints, our hearts are towards you,

you, you are the Leaders of the People: you March willingly
to the high places of the field; We are (and oh that we could
be more then you) sensible of all your labour of Love, all your
hardships, wet Marches, meane Quarters, worse Diet, But this
comforts us, That our God will supply all your wants, accor-
ding to his Riches in Glory by Christ Jesus. Unto whose
tender mercies and loving kindnesse, we desire from our
Soules through the Spirit, to recommend you, and subscribe
our selves,

White-hall the 16 day
of the fifth Moneth,

Your poore Brethren, and
Servants in the Lord,

Thomas Harrison.

William Constable.

Nahaniel Rich.

Coll. Barkstead.

Coll. Ingoldsby.

Coll. Sanders, &c.

Received at White-hall

the 16 day of the 5th Moneth

July 1600.

Some



Some Grounds of Confidence, That the
Lords sweet Presence, is, and will be
with the Army in their Pre-
sent Expedition.

1. **T**hat the Cause is the same which was engaged
for, and witnessed unto at Naisby, and Preston
in England. Also in Scotland. Since, won-
derfully in Ireland, onely with this Difference.

1. That the Name of God is now more deeply enga-
ged and concerned.

2. That the Saints are now more revealed and
marked for destruction.

3. That the present enemy is full of bitterness,
and the Spirit of Persecution.

4. That a mighty Spirit of Prayer is generally pou-
red out. And that not so much mixed with feare of
danger, as love to Christ. All the Congregations about
London, kept one day this last weeke, and some of them
met three dayes together.

5. That all unprejudiced people, fearing the Lord, and
relying on him, waite for, and expect a glorious returne
from you. Some Saints in Wales have strange assurance
of it.

6. The many large Promises, and Prophecies of the lat-
ter dayes (wherein we think we live) for the exaltation of
Christ

Christs Kingdome, and supplantation of Antichrists about which worke you are.

5. That God hath not onely disappointed the hopes of some, upon the withdrawing of our late Lord Generall, but also given the Army a greater measure of Love and Unity, and tenderesse, to all Godly, though their Enemies.

6. That your Adversaries are joined to that Person, and Interest, against which, God hath signally declared, even by themselves, against Montrose.

7. That they rather hate and maligne Christs Spirit, and appearances in you, then your Person, preferring their Forme, to the Power of Godliness.

8. That we aime at, and intend the glory and exaltation of God, of the Kingdome of Christ his deare Sonne, at the just Liberty of all Saints, yea the Presbyterians, as our owne, whilst they profess to doo so ours.

9. That we seeke not the ruine of, or Conquest over Scotland, but to save our selves against them, And if their ends might be best answered by their prevailing, we trust both you and we can with some integrity say before the Lord, we would have it so.

F I N I S

The many large Promises and Prophecies of the last
Reformation are hereby (as they are) for the exaltation of
Christe